



# The Australian Songwriter

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## Chairman's Message



Dear Members,

Well, we are now into the 2013 Australian Songwriters Association Song Contest in a big way. Entries have been pouring in, but from songwriters I have talked to in my travels around the nation in the past couple of weeks, there are still a lot of people who have not put their songs in. There are all sorts of reasons put forward for this, but the Board doesn't want anyone to miss out, so I say **GET THOSE ENTRIES IN NOW.**

This month our Vice Chairman and Editor Alan Gilmour has put together a fantastic e-Newsletter designed to get your creative juices flowing. He has assembled an array of interviews with past Category Winners of the ASA Song Contest as well as long time Members, who epitomise the spirit, culture and values of the ASA.

We also go back in time to tell the story of our first Rudy Brandsma Award Winner, Steve Wade. It is an extremely interesting piece, and it highlights how many of our ASA Award Winning Members have gone on to big things. All the useful features are also enclosed, so all Members can be assured of a lot of much needed information.

All in all, the May e-Newsletter is absolutely crammed with excellent reading. Don't forget about those Song Contest entries, and hope to see you at one of our many Wax Lyricals in my many journeys around the country.

Regards,  
Denny Burgess  
Chairman

## Editor's Message

Welcome to the May 2013 edition of The Australia Songwriter. This month we feature profiles on 2012 Category winners Greg J Bryant and Kathy Coleman, and ASA members Cill Van Der Velden and Sami Cooke. James Linderman joins us again with his tips on songwriting and we also look at another slice of ASA history in the form of the first Rudy Brandsma Award winner from 1985, Steve Wade.

The Australian Songwriter welcomes written contributions from ASA members and readers of the magazine. If you have anything that you would like to say about yourself, other songwriters/musicians/artists/new releases or upcoming events, simply send your contribution via email to The Editor at [alang@asai.org.au](mailto:alang@asai.org.au).

Cheers,

Alan Gilmour  
Editor

## ASA History: Steve Wade, the First Winner of The Rudy Brandsma Award in 1985



**Photo: Steve Wade in 1985 with the first Rudy Brandsma Award.**

This year will mark the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Rudy Brandsma Award. The award was established in 1985, following the death of ASA Chairman Rudy Brandsma in 1983, and is presented annually to an ASA member who displays songwriting excellence in the course of each year's Australian Songwriting Contest. The winners of the award over the past 10 years have been:

2012	27 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Melia Naughton and Nerida Naughton
2011	26 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Katie Hardyman
2010	25 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Karen Guymer
2009	24 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Kate Lush
2008	23 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Jo Kelly Stephenson
2007	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Award	Brenda Lee Heathcote
2006	21 <sup>st</sup>	Award	Daniel Arvidson
2005	20 <sup>th</sup>	Award	K'Crasher
2003/4	19 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Callee Mann
2002	18 <sup>th</sup>	Award	Sara Downs

Going back even further, the first winner of The Rudy Brandsma Award in 1985 was Melbourne singer and songwriter **Steve Wade**.